

Remarks

Claims 1-26, 28, 31-40, 42, and 45-49 are currently pending. Applicants assert that all claims are in condition for allowance after final as set forth more fully below.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings due to errors in FIGS. 4 and 5. A replacement FIG. 4 is enclosed and provides output to block 412 as No and output to block 416 as Yes. A replacement FIG. 5 is enclosed and now states “at SSP”, which is believed to be more accurate than the correction suggested by the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to the drawings now be withdrawn.

103 Rejections

Claims 1-26, 28, 31-40, 42, and 45-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over combinations of reference including Devillier (US Pat 6,366,661) in view of Bhandari (US Pat 6,891,940) with some rejections also including Dunn (US Pat 5,917,817), White (US Pat 6,014,379), and Bajzath (US Pat 6,144,644). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

As discussed in the Office Action, Devillier fails to disclose that a device performing as a gateway as claimed is in communication with the switch and controller through links distinct from the computer network. In particular, it is stated that the server 16 of Devillier communicates over the computer network in response to a request from the SCP 32 while it is the AIN IP 26 that parks the call. Thus, it is conceded that a single gateway as claimed does not perform both of those functions but that the two must be combined in order to provide the functionality of the gateway as claimed. To address these deficiencies of Devillier, the Office Action states that Bhandari discloses the structural limitations of the gateway being in communication with the switch and controller through links distinct from the computer network in the Intelligent Peripheral 40. The Office Action further states that it would have been obvious to combine Bhandari with Devillier in order to combine the functionality of the server 16 and the AIN-IP into one network element and thus to connect the modified AIN IP to both the data network and the AIN as disclosed in Bhandari. Applicants respectfully disagree.

It has been conceded that Devillier does not disclose the gateway recitations as claimed in that Devillier relies upon a server 16 which is a node of the Internet 18 to communicate over the computer network or Internet 18 in response to a communication from the SCP 32 received over the Internet 18 (computer network) rather than receiving it over a communication link distinct from the computer network. It has been further conceded that Devillier does not disclose the gateway recitations as claimed in that Devillier relies on the AIN IP 26, which is strictly an AIN device, to park the incoming call but AIN IP 26 does not communicate over the Internet 18 (computer network). The Office Action seeks to remedy such deficiencies by providing that it is known in Bhandari to provide the AIN IP with a connection to the Internet 18 (computer network). However, modifying Devillier such that that AIN IP 26 has a connection to the Internet 18 fails to address all of the deficiencies of Devillier.

Simply providing the AIN IP 26 with an Internet connection based on Bhandari does not mean that the AIN IP 26 should automatically have the functionality of the server 16. Nor does it mean that the SCP 32 should automatically have the functionality to communicate the request to the AIN IP 26 over the AIN links rather than through the Internet 18. There is no motivation to change the AIN IP 26 functionality, nor change the SCP 32 functionality, simply because the AIN IP 26 may be modified to have an Internet connection. The Internet connection of the IP 40 of Bhandari is for a completely different purpose, providing an interface for receiving account information from a subscriber over the network rather than from an IVR of a telephone call, and has nothing to do with communicating over a computer network in response to an incoming call triggering a controller to send a request to the IP to do such communications.

There appears to be no disclosure in any of the references of having a gateway park the call and communicate over the computer network in response to a request from a controller based on an incoming call such that finding motivation to modify Devillier to do so occurs only by a reading of the present application. However, applying hindsight based on a reading of the present application is, of course, impermissible. Therefore, Applicants request that either the claims be passed to allowance or a reference be provided that shows the necessary motivation to alter both the AIN IP 26 and the SCP 32 to cause the AIN IP 26 to park the incoming call but to also receive

through the AIN links distinct from the Internet 18 the request from the SCP 32 for communicating over the Internet 18 to get a response to a query from a switch that is caused by the incoming call that the AIN IP 26 has parked.

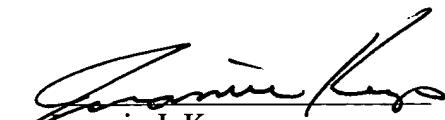
Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-26, 28, 31-40, 42, and 45-49 is in condition for allowance after final. Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks above and further request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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